



Teens on Track

6th Annual Teen Literature Seminar



Sharon Flake



Angela Johnson

How can we inspire and help teens stay on track? Illiteracy, joblessness and poverty, drugs and alcohol, gangs and violence stress families and teens are lost in the shuffle. Learn how reading and teen literature can be used to keep teens engaged and on track to a bright future. This daylong event featuring authors Sharon Flake and Angela Johnson will inspire anyone who cares about teens: teachers, librarians, parents, youth leaders, and college students. Registration required; \$35 fee includes lunch. Learn more and register online, www.kpl.gov/teenlit or call 553-7807.

March 14, 8:00 am-4:00 pm

Fetzer Center, Western Michigan University



Tour the Library Curious? Visit backstage!

What happens behind the scenes at the library? How do librarians select books, music and movies they put on the shelves? How do they answer the thousands of questions library users ask every year? Come find out!

Gather by the Central Library front door at 7 pm on the third Thursday of the month for your hour-long guided tour. A staff member will tell you all about your award-winning library, take you into rarely-seen areas, and answer any questions you may have.

Whether you're new to the library or a longtime user, young or young-at-heart, you'll enjoy this unique visit!

Come to Our Party!

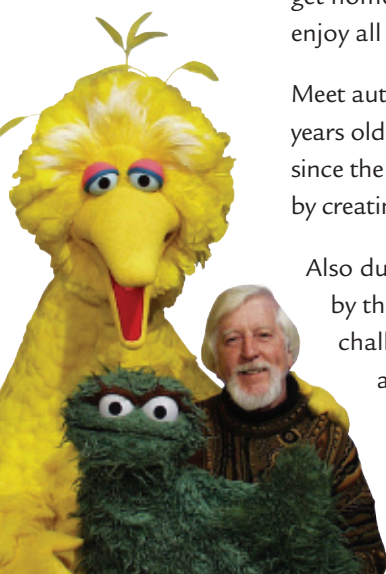
Kalamazoo Public Library joins libraries around the country in celebrating National Library Week, April 13-19, 2008, with a week-long party. Come dream, explore, learn, and grow—come join the circle of knowledge @ your library!



"For 135 years, Kalamazoo Public Library has served the people of Kalamazoo. We think of the library as our community's gathering place," says Ann Rohrbaugh, library director. "Here, people of all ages and backgrounds come together for storytimes, community meetings and events, to browse, read and talk about books, to get homework help, do research, search for a job, and more. Please come enjoy all that your library offers during this special week."

Meet author Carroll Spinney on April 16. A puppeteer since he was eight years old, Spinney has been the man inside Big Bird and Oscar the Grouch since the beginning of Sesame Street. He'll share the wisdom he has gleaned by creating and portraying one of the world's most beloved characters.

Also during the week, a performance of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by the Kalamazoo Junior Dance Company, a Stump the Librarian challenge, and a READ poster contest. Free tickets to see Spinney and more information about the week's events will be available on March 15 at the library.



Party in the Park

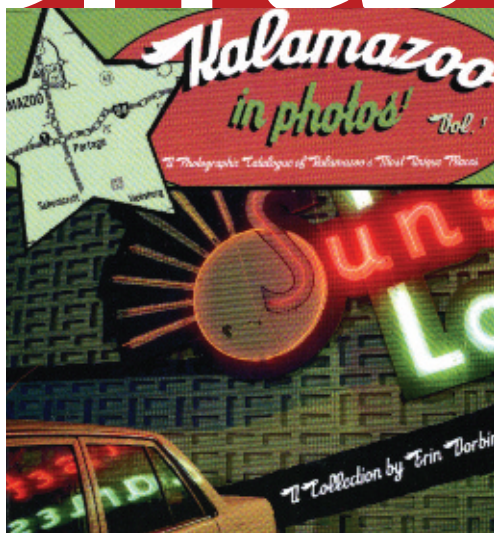
Bring your preschool-aged children to this special Ready to Read story hour featuring celebrity readers and costumed characters. Each child will get a book, juice and healthy snack. Call 553-7886 with number attending by Friday, May 23.

Wednesday, May 28
10:00-11:00 am
Bronson Park

events

Spring @ kpl

Enjoy an array of programs for the whole family at KPL. Check online calendars at www.kpl.gov for a complete schedule of events.



BOOKS & MORE

Art Hop

Photographer and historian Erin Dorbin documents the evolution of the built environment. Her book, *Kalamazoo in Photos*, includes written and visual features on both familiar and lost local landmarks. Enjoy this exceptional collection of images plus music by Kalamazoo Mandolin & Guitar Orchestra.

March 7, 6:00-9:00 pm

Meet John Sellers

Booklist called John Sellers' *Perfect From Now On: How Indie Rock Saved My Life* one of the "best resources to date on indie rock." Hear Sellers read from his book and describe how indie music can "save" your life, too.

March 5, 7:00-8:30 pm

Animals Among Us

Local videographer Matthew Clysdale captured an extraordinary glimpse into the secret world of animals in Kalamazoo. You'll hear about his journey and see video clips of wildlife in some unlikely urban settings. Matthew will sell and sign his DVD.

March 8, 1:00 pm
Oshtemo Branch Library



Poetry Feast

Offerings co-sponsored by the Friends of Poetry.

■ Dominant Hand

Friends of Poetry president Elizabeth Kerlikowske will read from her new book of poems, *Dominant Hand*. Her work has appeared most recently in *Weathervane*, *Encore*, and *Poesia*. She teaches English and Journalism at KCC and completed her Ph.D. in English at WMU in 2007.

March 12, 7:00 pm
Central, Van Duesen Room

■ Jazz and Poetry

Urban folk poet Wardell Montgomery Jr. says jazz and poetry ensembles date back to the Harlem Renaissance. Performing as Creative Tradition, Montgomery and tenor saxophonist Keith Gamble keep that tradition alive. Join them and pianist Mike Evans for an evening of poetry, music, and social commentary.

April 29, 7:00 pm
Central, Van Duesen Room



Writing Your Life Stories

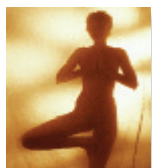


Learn how to spin your own tall tales with the author of *Q Road*. Bonnie Jo Campbell will share thoughts on how to choose good subjects, shape engaging stories, and reveal strategies to keep you writing for years to come. Registration required; call 553-7809.

April 5, 1:00-4:00 pm
Oshtemo Branch Library

@ YOUR LIBRARY

Explore Yoga



Stretch, move, relax, uplift in this yoga class for all levels. Attend all six weeks to experience building and growing. Bring a yoga mat, an open heart and curious spirit.

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7, 6:00 pm
Central, Van Duesen Room

Ask a Lawyer



Free legal clinic with County Bar Association volunteer lawyers. Get help with most areas of civil law, including landlord-tenant problems, government benefits issues, divorce and family law. For more info or to schedule a 20-minute appointment, call 553-7920.

March 5, April 2, May 7
6:00-8:00 pm
Alma Powell Branch Library

March 13, April 10, May 8
6:00-8:00 pm

March 14, April 11, May 9
11:30 am-1:00 pm
Central, Law Library

Talk To Me



Recent statistics reveal an increase in teen birth rates. It's clear we need to talk to kids about sex, but how do we move beyond

embarrassment and discomfort to start the conversation? Experts from several fields will share ways to have a meaningful dialogue with your child. For more information, call 553-7911.

March 6, 6:00-7:30 pm
Central, Van Deusen Room

Get Tax Help



You earned it! You keep it! Maximize your tax refund with basic tax preparation

assistance. Call 553-7838 or sign up online at www.kpl.gov/taxinfo to set up a free appointment with an IRS-Certified community tax volunteer.

March 8, March 29
10:00 am-3:00 pm
Central Library

March 15, April 12
10:30 am-3:30 pm
Oshtemo Branch Library

Find It! @ the library

Explore the library's resources with an expert! Learn how to find information on topics from auto repair to buying guides to sports. Follow the clues and win prizes in a fun Q&A scavenger hunt. Registration required; call 553-7983.

March 25, 3:00 pm
April 9, 7:00 pm
May 27, 11:00 am
Oshtemo Branch Library

Investor Education



Financial education from a source you can trust. No sales pitch. One-on-one counseling available

from experienced investment professionals following 1.5 hour presentation. Registration required for counseling; call 552-7983. Sponsored by State of Michigan Office of Financial and Insurance Services.

April 17, 6:00-9:00 pm
Oshtemo Branch Library

BOOK GROUPS

Discuss best-sellers and little known gems.

Reality Check

Central Library, 7:00 pm

Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer

by James L. Swanson
March 4

Marley and Me

by John Grogan
April 1

Silent Spring

by Rachel Carson
May 6



Oshtemo

Oshtemo Branch Library, 1:00 pm

Five People You Meet in Heaven

by Mitch Albom
March 11

The Road

by Cormac McCarthy
April 8

Mountains Beyond Mountains

by Tracy Kidder
May 13



Classics Revisited

Central Library, 7:00 pm

The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter

by Carson McCullers
March 20

The Moonstone
by Wilkie Collins
April 17

Jayber Crow

by Wendell Berry
May 15



events

@ YOUR LIBRARY

Green Business Practices

Jeff Hawkins from Envirollogic Technologies Inc. will talk about growing environmental awareness within the business world. Learn how a small business can make practical and economical green choices.

April 21, 7:00 pm
Central, Van Deusen Room

Grant Seeking



Library resources can help you locate grants for your non-profit organization. Let library staff help you navigate more than 80,000

private foundations, and show you tools to research and write a successful grant. Registration required; call 553-7983.

April 22, 2:30-3:30 pm
Oshtemo Branch Library

At Home in the World

Kalamazoo College students returning from study abroad share insights about their host countries.

■ Environmental Concerns

In observance of Earth Day, students will describe the environmental concerns of citizens in Ecuador, China, Germany, and other countries.

April 22, 7:00 pm
Central, Van Deusen Room

■ Cultural Identity

Is globalization affecting deep-seated cultural identity and traditions? Students will talk about cultural homogenization in Italy, Japan, Senegal, and other countries.

May 22, 7:00 pm
Central, Van Deusen Room



Regarding the Earth

Mel Visser, author of *Cold, Clear and Deadly: Unraveling a Toxic Legacy*, will describe his search for the source of PCBs and persistent pesticides in the Great Lakes.

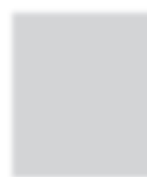


His investigation took him to the Canadian High Arctic, where he lived with the Inuit and learned how global agribusiness contaminates their food supply and poisons their intimate relationship with the land. Visser will include a brief history of chemical use and describe their amazing path to the Great Lakes and the Arctic.

The Michigan Environmental Council supports Visser's efforts. He will also report on their mutual progress. The presentation will be followed by Q&A. Books for sale and signing.

April 24, 7:00 pm
Central, Van Deusen Room

Explore Feng Shui



Learn about the bagua map, the five basic elements, and how to use feng shui in your space and life. Lori Gear has practiced feng shui

for more than a decade. She has advised individuals, facilitated workshops, and trained other feng shui consultants.

May 5, 14, 19, 28, 6:30 pm
Central, Van Deusen Room

teen

Tweens
ROCK
@kpl

Teen Tech Week

March 2-8, 2008

Where would you be without technology... without iPods, computers, cell phones, IM? Embrace technology at your library during Teen Tech Week. Check out our new Nintendo DS systems in the Central Library Teen Area. Bring your library card and a photo ID to connect with players across the country through our games and WiFi network. Listen to our first-ever Teen Advisory Board (T.A.B.) podcast at www.kpl.gov/teen.

iPod Party

Kick off Teen Tech Week with iPod style. Help create an iMix. Let your fingers click the wheel in the Nano game, Phase. Watch videos, make a sock for your iPod, and more. Food and prizes.

March 3, 6:00-7:00 pm
Oshtemo Branch



Authors @ the Zoo

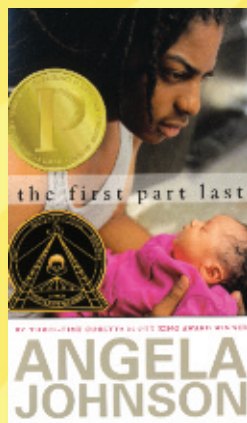
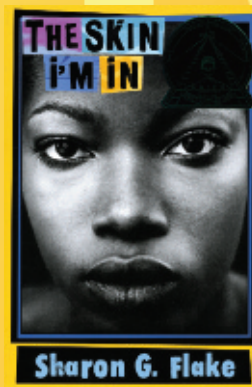
Meet Sharon Flake & Angela Johnson

Central, March 13, 7:00 pm

How do they create those characters? Where do their stories come from? Get into the heads of award-winning writers Sharon Flake and Angela Johnson! Ask them questions about their work. Books available for sale and signing. Food! Everyone welcome.

Sharon Flake's characters include Maleeka, who learns how to love who she is and what she looks like in *The Skin I'm In*, and Raspberry Hill, who worries that she may have inherited her drug addicted father's lying and stealing ways in *Begging for Change*.

Angela Johnson created Bobby, whose carefree teenage life changes forever when he becomes a father in *The First Part Last*, and Marley, whose tranquil life turns hellish the day she discovers that Momma and Pops are not her real parents in *Heaven*.



Tweens Rock

After school fun @ the library! Meet new people. Play games like Apples to Apples, Uno, DDR. Make cool crafts, plus Karaoke, scavenger hunts, and more. Snacks! Drop in anytime. For tweens in grades 5-8 only.

Drop Zone

March 6, April 3, May 1
4:00-5:00 pm
Eastwood Branch Library

Drop Zone

March 20, April 17, May 15
4:00-5:00 pm
Washington Square Branch

Tween Central

March 26, April 23, May 28
3:30-5:00 pm
Central, Van Deusen Room

Prom Prep

Shop for the prom at KPL! Check our racks of dresses and accessories. Take home something you like. Get hair and makeup tips, manicures, and dance lessons. Enter the contest to win a free tuxedo rental and other great prizes.

April 5, 1:00-3:00 pm
Central, Van Deusen Room

To learn more about tween and teen events call 553-7807 or visit www.kpl.gov/teen

events

HISTORY & GENEALOGY

Programs for those interested in regional or family history.

Fearless “Sheroes”

Hear about the women who helped galvanize and sustain the Civil Rights Movement. Karika Phillips, author of the article “Strong Women Strutting Men: A Black Woman’s Civil Rights Movement,” will share her research with the African American Women’s Writing Group. Call 553-7960 to register for this program.

March 12, 6:00-8:00 pm
Powell Branch Library

This Old Building

This series offers a closer, insider’s look at intriguing historical buildings in Kalamazoo and the region.

Our Educational Heart

Local historian Lynn Houghton will talk about the buildings that have stood on the corner of S. Westnedge and Vine over the past 150 years, beginning with Union School through “Old Central.”

March 27, 7:00 pm
Central, Van Deusen Room

Cathedrals to the Earth’s Spirit

Jan Corey Arnett, aka “The Barn Lady,” will describe her passion—to create new lives for old barns as a member of the Michigan Barn Preservation Network.

April 28, 7:00 pm
Central, Van Deusen Room



Genealogy Lock-In

An after-hours event just for genealogists! Explore reference materials and databases, use the microfilm reader/scanner/printer and save to flash drive. Reserved parking in the library lot. Free copying and printing. Registration required; call 553-7808 beginning April 7 to register.

April 25, 6:00-10:00 pm
Central, Local History Room



Intro to Genealogy

Start compiling your family tree! Learn how to search Ancestry.com, Heritage Quest, and KPL’s own index to local newspapers featuring vital statistics back to 1834. Registration required; call 553-7980 beginning April 21 to register.

May 15, 1:00-3:00 pm
Central, Computer Lab

A Family Affair

Descendents of African Americans that settled in southwest Michigan will share their genealogical research and photos. Includes workshops on how to research African American genealogy, restore and preserve old photos and documents, and how to do an oral history.

Saturday, May 17, 1:00-4:00 pm
Central, Van Deusen Room

friends



David Small and Sarah Stewart have been friends of the Kalamazoo Public Library for years. These photos were taken at Mary Rife's retirement party in 2001.

Friends Annual Meeting

The Friends of the Kalamazoo Public Library will hold their annual meeting, Wednesday, May 14, at the Ladies Library Association, 333 S. Park St. Members and their guests should arrive at noon for appetizers and punch; a delicious hot chicken salad will be served at 12:30 pm.

After lunch, the Friends will move to the second floor auditorium for a brief business meeting, election and a very special program.

This year's program, "Behind the Scenes," features longtime Kalamazoo Public Library friends and award-winning authors and illustrator Sarah Stewart and David Small. A question and answer period will follow their presentation and a selection of their most popular books will be available for sale and signing.

David Small became known as "the kid who could draw good" in school. After getting his MFA, David taught art for many years on the college level, before writing and illustrating his first picture book, *Eulalie and the Hopping Head*. He is working on a graphic memoir about his problematic youth.

As a child, Sarah Stewart's favorite pursuits were digging and daydreaming in her grandmother's gardens, or reading and writing poetry in a large closet in her parents' house. Sarah has written five award-winning children's books, all illustrated by David.

Tickets cost \$15 per person. Members wishing to reserve a seat may send a check (made out to FKPL) with the names of those attending to Friends of the Kalamazoo Public Library, 315 S. Rose St., Kalamazoo MI 49007, or visit the Friends Bookstore on the library's lower level. Please include your phone number and email address with your reservation.

Sidewalk Sale

Enjoy Super Saturday, June 2, in downtown Kalamazoo—the DooDah Parade, the KIA Art Fair, AND the Friends Annual Sidewalk Sale, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. You can choose from a large volume of books at our usual bargain prices, just \$2.00 per bag or 10 cents per book. Plus, we'll give everyone a coupon for a free 50¢ bargain book with their bookstore purchase. Stock up for summer reading at this not-to-be-missed event. You'll find great selections in children's books, romances, and biographies, as well as some non-fiction. See you there!

membership application

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student | \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$25.00 |

Name _____

List all on family or patron membership.

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Dues are tax deductible. Please send form and check, payable to Friends of the Library, to:

Friends of the Library
Kalamazoo Public Library
315 S. Rose St.
Kalamazoo MI 49007

store hours

Wednesday 12 noon - 7 pm

Thursday 10 am - 4 pm

Friday 10 am - 4 pm

Saturday 10 am - 4 pm

Located on the lower level of the Central Library. Questions? 553-7820



Stump the Librarian

So you think the Web has all the answers? Think again! The ultimate search engine is at your library. Submit questions to the librarians at any KPL location or online at www.kpl.gov/stump. We'll award prizes to anyone who can "Stump the Librarian." Questions will be accepted starting Monday, April 14, 9:00 am, until 5:00 pm on Friday, April 18, 2008. Prize winners and their questions will be posted online.

Be a Celebrity

Some of the world's best-known faces lend their support to the simple but powerful message—READ—on posters published by the American Library Association (ALA).



The first poster featuring popular actor/comedian Bill Cosby appeared in 1985. Other actors lending their support include Orlando Bloom reading *The Lord of the Rings*, Denzel Washington reading *Green Eggs and Ham*, Selma Hayek reading *Frida*, and Dakota Fanning reading *Charlotte's Web*.



Now you can be a celebrity reader on a poster, too! Bring your favorite book and get your photo taken at your neighborhood library during National Library Week. At the end of the week, all the photos will be posted on the library's website, www.kpl.gov. Vote for your top five photos. The top five winners will be printed on a KPL READ bookmark and the highest vote getter will become a banner for each library. Everyone will receive a copy of their custom READ poster.

Appointment required. Learn more about the READ Celebrity Contest and sign up at any KPL location beginning March 15. Open to KPL district library card holders only.

Kalamazoo Kings team members and mascots with some of their favorite reads.

LIBRARY LINK SPRING 2008

Kalamazoo Public Library

315 South Rose Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Kalamazoo, MI
Permit No. 1224

*****ECRWSS*****
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Central Library

315 South Rose, 49007
342-9837

Friends of the Library Bookstore

315 South Rose, 49007
353-7820

Bookmobile

Call 553-7991 for complete schedule.

Eastwood

1112 Gayle Ave, 49048
553-7810

Oshtemo

7265 W Main St, 49009
553-7980

Alma Powell

1000 W Paterson, 49007
553-7960

Washington Square

1244 Portage St, 49001
553-7970

www.kpl.gov

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Kalamazoo Public Library's Community Relations Office publishes *Link* with support from the Friends of the Library. Contact the editor with your comments or suggestions, 553-7879 or email cro@kpl.gov.